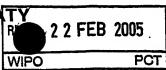
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 02B46T2-6/45 International application No. PCT/EP 03/14459			FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)			
			International filing date (day 18.12.2003	/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/ye	ear)
nternation 364G4		Classification (IPC) or be	oth national classification and	IPC		
pplican NTER	nt RSECURE	LOGIC LIMITED E	T AL			
. TI	his interna authority ar	tional preliminary exa nd is transmitted to the	mination report has been a applicant according to Ar	prepared by this ticle 36.	International Preliminary Ex	amining
. T	This REPO	RT consists of a total	of 5 sheets, including this	s cover sheet.		
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7	These ann	exes consist of a tota	or sneets.			
<u>-</u>				ems:		
	This repor	t contains Indications	relating to the following ite	ems:		
3.	This repor	t contains indications Basis of the opinion	relating to the following ite			
3	This repor	t contains indications Basis of the opinion	relating to the following ite		step and industrial applicabl	lity
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 03/14459

ı.	Basis	of the	report
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1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

	Desc : 1-46	ription, Pages	as originally filed				
	Clain 1-8	ns, Numbers	as originally filed				
	Draw	rings, Sheets					
	•••	10/10	as originally filed				
2.	With lange	regard to the languag uage in which the inter	e, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the national application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.				
	Thes	se elements were avail	able or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:				
		the language of a trans	slation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).				
	\Box	the language of public	ation of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).				
		the language of a tran Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)	slation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under				
3	With inte	n regard to any nucleo rnational preliminary ex	tide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the camination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:				
		contained in the interr	national application in written form.				
		filed together with the	international application in computer readable form.				
			ly to this Authority in written form.				
		furnished subsequent	tly to this Authority in computer readable form.				
	-0-	The statement that the	e subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure				
		The statement that the listing has been furnished	ne information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence				
	4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:						
		the description,	pages:				
		the claims,	Nos.:				
		the drawings,	sheets:				

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT**

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5. 🏻	This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).	∕e
	Decit congresses to 2	

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes: Claims

1-8

Inventive step (IS)

Claims No: Yes: Claims

5-7

Claims No:

1-4,8

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims

1-8

Claims No:

- 2. Citations and explanations
 - see separate sheet

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

- Reference is made to the following documents: 1.
 - D2: US-A-3 268 091 (MELTON DONALD F) 23 August 1966 (1966-08-23)
 - D3: US-A-3 144 215 (KLEIN GEORGE J) 11 August 1964 (1964-08-11)
- The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because 2. the subject-matter of claims 1-4 and 8 does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.
- The document D2 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter 2.1 of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):
 - An actuator arm (see col. 3, lines 8-13), comprising an action element (manipulator 12) which is connected to a base unit by a number of elongate flexible connecting means (16,18,20).
- 2.2 The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore differs from this known actuator arm in that the elongate flexible connecting means are more specifically described as tapes.
- The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as 2.3 providing an alternative to the cables which are proposed in D2 as a specific embodiment of those elongate flexible connecting means.
- 2.4 The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application cannot be considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons.
- 2.5 Tapes are merely one of several straightforward possibilities among elongate flexible connecting means from which the skilled person would select, in accordance with circumstances, without the exercise of inventive skill, in order to solve the problem posed. Such tapes are known in the art (see D3, for instance), and they appear to offer no surprising advantage over the prior art as disclosed in D2.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET



- 2.6 It must also be noted that the subject-matter of claim 1 in its current form is not entirely clear in whether the actuator arm also comprises the base unit and connection tapes. Also, it is not clear whether by a number of connection tapes a plurality is meant.
- 2.6 Dependent claims 2-4 and 8 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step, see document D2 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.
- 3. The combination of the features of dependent claims 5, 6 or 7 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art. The reasons are as follows:
- 3.1 Momentum wheels have not been previously suggested in the art for the purpose of manoeuvering an actuator arm. It would therefore not have been obvious for the skilled person to apply this feature to the actuator arm of D2.
- 3.2 Neither a laser source attached to a base unit nor a light reflector have been previously suggested in the art for the purpose of locating an actuator arm. It would therefore not have been obvious for the skilled person to apply this feature to the actuator arm of D2.